

SECRET/EXDIS

SALT TWO
SESSION I
A- 122

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION
U.S. SALT DELEGATION
GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

DATE: December 19, 1972

TIME: 7:00 - 7:15 p.m.

PLACE: Parc des Eaux-Vives
Geneva

SUBJECT: SALT

PARTICIPANTS: US

USSR

Dr. Lawrence D. Weiler

Mr. O. A. Grinevsky

General

During the Swiss reception Grinevsky commented that it was unfortunate that SALT TWO/I was not going to last a few days longer since it might be possible for both sides to get a better understanding of each other's views in the next few days now that both sides had formally set forth their positions. When I asked whether he thought the recent discussions between Ambassador Smith and Minister Semenov had been useful, he said it was hard to tell at this point.

Grinevsky said he found the life of a SALT delegate personally trying. He said he could not bring his wife with him because of his sixteen year old son who he felt should have a home at his age rather than be sent to boarding school. The result of this decision, was, he said, that he spent much of his life alone in a hotel room, adding that now it was a hotel room surrounded by the polluted air of rue de Lausanne. When I noted that Geneva hotels would probably be even more crowded for SALT TWO/II, Grinevsky agreed, saying that with the CCD delegations, the SALT delegations, and probably mutual force reduction delegations, all here at the same time we would be lucky to get any hotel rooms.

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Non-Use of Force and Nuclear Weapons

I noted that the General Assembly was winding up its work and asked Grinevsky how he would evaluate the results of this session. His reply was "only so-so." He said he was disappointed with the U.S. response to the Soviet proposal on non-use of force and nuclear weapons, saying it had been put forward as a way of meeting past Western objections to earlier Soviet proposals. I said that aside from the various unfortunate UN constitutional problems raised by the Soviet proposal, the proposal did appear to be quite a change from past Soviet proposals on non-use and asked if this represented a change in Soviet policy. Grinevsky replied that it did not. He said despite all their best efforts the Soviets had failed in their past attempts to get the West to agree to more far-reaching limitations on use of nuclear weapons and that they had hoped that by their new proposal there could be agreement to have at least some inhibition on use of nuclear weapons. He said that in the long run Soviet policy remained that of a "real ban" on using nuclear weapons. I commented that in view of past Soviet proposals on non-use, I was surprised that the Soviets had not responded to the Chinese proposal. Grinevsky said there was no point in agreeing to accept the Chinese proposal on no-first-use because if the Soviet were to do so the Chinese would tie such an undertaking to other questions, commenting that this was the tactic the Chinese always follow. I did not carry the matter further.

LDWeiler:bls *USW*
December 20, 1972

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